

of more than a half-million Hungarian Jews. On a day we remember the liberation of Auschwitz, I remember, too, that one out of every three Jews who died there were Hungarian.

The Holocaust happened, and it can happen again. It can. We made a promise to our grandparents and to our grandchildren that it would never happen again. I believe that we are all each responsible for keeping that promise. So let us heed the lessons of the past in order to build a more peaceful, just, and compassionate future for all.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I come to the floor today to discuss some of the first actions that have been taken by the new administration.

At his inauguration, President Biden spoke about the importance of uniting the country, bringing us together, the importance of unity. Well, I agree. We have been much too divided as a nation. We need to bring America together.

In just a few hours after his inaugural address, President Biden issued one Executive order after another that I believe is only going to drive America further apart. He hasn't really reached out and hasn't really tried to work with us.

At a time when millions of people across the country are struggling with unemployment and the effects of a global pandemic, President Biden has taken actions that will actually raise the cost of living for people all across the country. In particular, President Biden has taken aim at American energy.

Now, in Wyoming, energy production does a lot more than just keep the lights on. It puts food on the table. It does it for thousands of families. It pays for our schools, education, and our roads.

In Wyoming we produce coal, oil, natural gas, and uranium for nuclear power. We also have incredible renewable resources. Wyoming, in many ways, has world class wind. We are experiencing that today in Casper, WY.

Wyoming has some of the largest reserves of energy in terms of resources anywhere in the country. In Wyoming we produce 15 times more energy than we use in our State. It actually makes us the country's largest net energy supplier to the rest of the country. Energy production is the economic lifeblood of Wyoming. It is a major source

of revenue for, as I said, our schools, our roads, our bridges, and essential services for all of our citizens.

Wyoming is very proud of our energy workers. Remarkable men and women every day get up and go to work to put food on the table, put clothing on their kids' backs, and the whole country benefits from the energy that comes from Wyoming.

Thanks to America's energy workers, in 2019, America became energy independent. It was the first time we had become independent in over 60 years. That makes it easier for families to make ends meet. It makes us stronger on the world stage. It decreases our reliance on energy from other sources, like foreign powers who want to do us harm.

Thanks to our American energy workers, America is an energy superpower, and I believe we should be acting like one. That is why it is remarkable when I see President Biden painting a target on the back of American energy. That is what he has been doing with his Executive orders, including today.

Despite all of the talk about unity, one of the first things that President Biden has done in office is to directly attack—attack—energy-producing States like Wyoming. It has actually turned out to be his No. 1 priority.

The White House is calling today "climate day." This morning, President Biden stopped all new oil, gas, and coal leases on Federal lands—today. Well, half of the State of Wyoming is federally owned. Even a greater percentage of that, Madam President, in your State is federally owned.

Experts tell us that the long-term ban could cost us 33,000 jobs in Wyoming. We are a State of only a half-million people.

Earlier today, at a hearing of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, where I am the ranking member, the senior Republican, I asked the President's nominee for Secretary of Energy about how the President's ban would affect jobs, and she admitted that in terms of jobs—she said some "jobs . . . might be sacrificed."

Saying no to American energy production means less energy, less economic activity, and less money in the pockets of American workers. It is not going to do a thing to lower emissions. It won't bring down global temperatures, but it will bring down workers' wages. It won't cool down planet Earth, but it will cool down our Nation's economy. Energy producers will simply go elsewhere while families in our country will suffer.

President Biden has also put a stop to the Keystone Pipeline. It has been in the headlines. The pipeline creates jobs. It reduces energy prices, and it strengthens our bonds with our neighbor to the north, with Canada.

The Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, is no conservative. He is known to be extremely progressive. Even he has said he was disappointed

in the decision by President Biden to cancel the pipeline. President Biden's very first phone call with a foreign leader since becoming President was with Prime Minister Trudeau. The Prime Minister raised the issue on the call. President Biden shut down the pipeline anyway.

It has also been reported that TC Energy warned the President's administration that the Keystone Pipeline means thousands of construction jobs, many of those union jobs. They are gone. They are gone. President Biden shut it down anyway.

President Biden has also begun the process of putting us back into the Paris climate accord. Now, under that agreement, the Biden administration is going to set unworkable targets for American businesses.

So what does it mean? Well, it hurts America, but it means China and Russia can continue with business as usual. It is a bad deal for our country. It makes us less competitive. It sacrifices energy jobs to try to stop climate change, which it will not do.

The Paris climate agreement is based on the fantasy that climate change is America's fault—blame America first. In reality, the United States is the leading driver of innovative climate solutions. President Biden's actions aren't just targeting American energy, they are also going after American small businesses.

President Biden is calling on this body to vote to double the Federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour. Now, maybe the President's idea of national unity is national uniformity, but that doesn't work in Wyoming or for the people of Wyoming. Maybe he thinks that imposing top-down regulations on every American would bring us all together. It is not the kind of unity that the American people are looking for. We want to stand shoulder to shoulder but not in the unemployment line.

In 2019, well before the pandemic hit, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimated that mandating a \$15 minimum wage nationwide would lead to 1.3 million fewer Americans working—1.3 million Americans. At a time when 10 million Americans are unemployed due to our pandemic, 1.3 million Americans more can't afford to lose their jobs.

The CBO also says it will lead to higher prices for consumers—paying more wages, passing on prices to consumers. Now this could hurt America's small businesses all across the country. I talked to a small business owner from Lovell, WY, Jimmy Minchow, who has a Sinclair station there. He called me on Sunday. He said \$15 an hour—there is a station and a food court next to it in Lovell. He said we would have to shut down the food court. We can't afford \$15 an hour for the young people who are working there. Putting money in their pockets and providing food services to the people of the community, \$15 an hour will shut it down. So the jobs ticker is now on President

Biden's watch, and the President will be judged by his decisions.

Now, the Senate, right before Christmas, passed another round of Paycheck Protection Programs we all supported. These are loans to help small businesses. I voted for it, and the Presiding Officer voted for it to help our small businesses.

Doubling the minimum wage is going to hurt small businesses and going to force them to lay off employees like will likely happened in Lovell, WY, and all across the Cowboy State. It is going to hurt the very people these loans are supposed to be helping.

A bill to provide \$900 billion of relief was signed just in late December. President Biden now wants to double that amount of funding. Now, Democrats may try to ram the bill through the Senate using a process called budget reconciliation. Now, of course, this entire cost will be added to our national debt, and if it occurs, it will likely be done without a single Republican vote.

This isn't unity. It is not bipartisan. It is not healing our divisions. This is a time for President Biden to heed the words of his own inaugural address. We need to work together to lower the cost of living, to produce more energy, to create more jobs, and to create more opportunities for every American. That is how we bring our Nation together. That is what we ought to do now.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

ABORTION

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, if you buy a new GM car, a Nissan, Honda, Kia or Toyota, even a Hyundai, you will notice they have started installing a new feature in their cars. It is a reminder, when you turn off the engine, to check your backseat.

Quite frankly, I rented a car not long ago, and it started dinging, and I kept trying to figure out what I had done and kept looking around until I saw the little monitor on the dashboard. It just said, "Check the backseat," which I thought was great because the makers of those cars all believe every child is precious and they shouldn't be harmed.

We have all heard stories like this, but I distinctly remember last summer seeing in the news a story about an infant who died because they were left in a hot car. That is why these carmakers are making this feature now.

I remember, as I saw the story on the news, just the reports and how angry

people were in the community. And they were angry at the store, and they were upset on the news. They couldn't believe that a mom had left a child in the backseat of a car and they had slowly died in the heat, because no one wants to see a child harmed. Everyone believes that every child is precious.

I remember, when I saw the story on the news last summer, turning to my wife and saying: I can't figure out our culture sometimes because that same mom and that same baby could have gone into an abortion clinic just a few months before and that child's life could have been ended, and it wouldn't have made the news. In fact, no one would have flinched.

In fact, the very same people who were furious at that mom for leaving her child in the hot car to die would have argued for her right to destroy that exact same child—in fact, would have called it her reproductive right or even the new euphemism out there, "reproductive care." Same child, same mom—nothing was different but a few months in time.

"Reproductive care" seems like such a nice little euphemism, but what it really means is paying someone in a clinic to reach into the womb with a surgical instrument, to pull the arms and legs off of a child in the womb so that they will bleed to death in the womb and then suction out the little boy or girl's body parts one at a time.

That is what "reproductive care" means, and I don't understand why that is normal but leaving a child in the backseat of a hot car is a tragedy.

Maybe it is because, as a nation, some people are afraid to answer the most obvious question: Is that a baby? That is the most obvious question. That face, that nose, those two eyes, that mouth, that chin, those fingers—is that a baby? That is really the only question: Is that a child?

Maybe there is a second question that needs to be answered: Are all children valuable, or are only some children valuable?

We seem to have a great deal of debate today in our society—and we should—about facts. People say we can't seem to agree on the same set of facts and truth. You can't have your facts and my facts; we just only have facts. The media, Big Tech, activists have all decried our loss of ability as a nation to just accept clear facts in front of our face—the obvious truth.

So let me ask the question again: Is that a baby? Yes or no? Because if we are all supposed to say, "Let's at least agree to the most basic of facts," how about that one? Is that a human child with a future and a purpose and a name? Are all children valuable or are only some?

Gold is valuable. It doesn't matter its size. I have gold in my wedding ring. Many people have gold in their wedding rings. If we found a small piece of gold on the floor, it would be valuable. It wouldn't matter its shape. It wouldn't matter its size, small or large. We

don't discriminate. Gold is valuable because everyone universally recognizes its worth. Every single Senator in this room recognizes the worth and value of gold. It is around \$1,800 an ounce right now to be able to get gold. We all seem, no matter how small or large, to agree gold is valuable, but we can't seem to agree that all children are valuable. Literally, gold is more precious to some people in this room than children are.

Children aren't valuable only sometimes or only certain children. Children are valuable. It can't be just that if a mom or dad wants a child, they are valuable and, if they don't want a child, they are not valuable; they are disposable. The mom or dad gets to choose who are precious and who is medical waste.

Is that a child? That is really the only question that has to be answered, because everything else flows from that.

There are political conversations in this room about the value of children, and every time it comes up, it gets noisy. People will say: Well, you don't fund enough money for education or childcare or healthcare in communities. So you don't love children.

I would say I have voted for the exact same bill you did last year, for billions of dollars for assistance in childcare, billions of dollars for early childhood education, elementary and secondary education, higher education. We did additional assistance for SNAP benefits last year and assistance of benefits for moms in need, increased healthcare for all communities, for federally qualified health centers to make sure we get healthcare to every single community. I voted on those exact same things multiple other people did in this room. I care about children outside the womb.

But those questions really aren't the question. They are distractions to the question. And I get it, because if I ask, "Is that a child?" people will respond: Well, do you spend enough for childcare or healthcare? And I still say: Wait. Stop and answer my first question. Is that a child?

Maybe I should ask a more basic question: Does everyone in this room believe in the principle that we should do unto others as we would want done unto us? What would you have wanted done to you when you were in the womb?

I don't address this issue lightly. This is a difficult issue for some people. I don't think an abortion is a flip-pant thing, that anyone walks into an abortion—I don't mean anyone who had an abortion is somehow gleeful about it. Quite frankly, I can't imagine that anyone who had an abortion would ever forget the sights and sounds and the smells of an abortion, knowing that a helpless child is dying at that moment.

I grieve for the moms and dads who will never ever forget that they went into a clinic and paid someone to get